

DHUL HIJJAH: THE SACRED MONTH

Bismillah hir-Rahman nir-Raheem

Introduction

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh, dear sisters in faith.

Today we gather to explore one of Islam's most blessed months - Dhul Hijjah. As we embark on this journey together, let us remember that seeking knowledge is an act of worship, and Allah (SWT) has honored us with the opportunity to learn about His sacred times.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"When Allah wants good for someone, He bestows upon him the understanding of Deen."* - (Bukhari and Muslim)

Just one month back we all were so engrossed in all types of *Ibadah* to please Allah (SWT). Subhan Allah. His blessings are unimaginable, His *Rahma* is unconceivable. He is again giving us chance to seek forgiveness from Him and do good deeds in these ten blessed days. There are days and nights which are better than other days and nights and in them rewards get multiplied in many folds. Seeking forgiveness from Allah and preparing oneself for the Day of Judgement motivate the person to put his ultimate efforts. These hard work gives the chance to correct one's faults and shortcomings and draws a person closer to Allah. "The happy person is the one who makes the most of these special months, days and hours and draws nearer to his Lord during these times through acts of worship; he will most likely be touched by the blessings of Allah and feel the joy of knowing that he is safe from the flames of Hell". (Ibn Rajab, al-lataa'if, p8)

What is Dhul Hijjah?

Dhul Hijjah is the twelfth and final month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The name literally means "The month of Hajj," as this is when millions of Muslims perform the sacred pilgrimage to Mecca. **Why This Month Is Special**

- Dhul Hijjah is one of the sacred months mentioned in the Qur'an:

"Indeed, the number of months with Allah is twelve... of which four are sacred..." (Surah At-Tawbah 9:36)

Sacred months include **Dhu al-Qadah, Dhu'l-Hijjah, Muharram and Rajab**

The Sacred Nature of This Month

Among the blessed days and nights are the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah. Allah took an oath which itself proves how blessed and great these days are. *"By the dawn; by the ten nights (i.e. the first ten days of the month of Dhul-Hijjah)"*. (Al-Fajr 89:1-2). The majority of scholars agree that these "ten nights" refer to the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah.

Ibn Abbas (RA) narrated: *The Prophet ﷺ said, "No good deeds done on other days are superior to those done on these (first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah)." Then some of the Companions of Prophet ﷺ said, "Not even Jihad?" He replied, Not even Jihad, except that of a man who does it by putting himself and his property in danger (for Allah's sake) and does not return with any of those things."* And Allah further said: *"and by the even and the odd (of all the creations of Allah). And by the night when it departs."* Even and odd is interpreted differently by different religious scholars, i.e. 10th of Dhul-Hijjah, and Odd is the Day of 'Arafah (Hajj), i.e. 9th of Dhul-Hijjah. Others say: Even is all the creatures and Odd is Allah. Some say it is the compulsory congregational prayer, i.e. Magrib is Witr, and the other four prayers are Shaf. 'There are indeed in them (the above oaths) sufficient proofs for men of understanding (and that they should avoid all kinds of sins and disbelief)!' (Khan, 2007)

Without any exception these ten days are better than other days including the last ten days of Ramadhan. No doubt that the last ten nights of Ramadhan are better because they include *Laylat al-Qadr (The night of power)*. But when it comes to days, these ten days are better. Does anyone know the relation between Ramadan and Dhul-Hijjah? Quran revealed in the month of Ramadan and it got completed in Dhul-Hijjah. Allah said, "Today I have completed your religion for you, perfected my favour upon you, and have chosen Islam as your religion." (5:3) Umar ibn al-Khattab reported: A man from the Jews said, "O leader of the believers, there is a verse you recite in your book and, had it been revealed to us as Jews, we would have taken that day as a celebration." Umar said, "Which verse is it?" The man recited the verse, "**Today I have completed your religion for you, perfected My favor upon you, and have chosen Islam as your religion.**" (5:3)

Umar said, "I know the day and place in which this verse was revealed to the Prophet, peace and blessings

be upon him. It was while he was standing on the day of Arafat on Friday." **الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتْمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا**

What makes these days superior?

1. All five pillars of Islam are represented meaning it includes all kind of worship.

- o Shahadah (Faith)
- o Salah (Prayer)
- o Sawm (Fasting on 9th Dhul Hijjah)
- o Zakah (Charity)
- o Hajj (Pilgrimage)

- 1) **Allah swears by them in the Quran** - When Allah swears by something, it indicates its immense importance. *"By the dawn. And [by] ten nights."* (Surah Al-Fajr 89:1-2)
Scholars like Ibn Kathir interpret these ten nights as the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah.

Practical Reflection

Ask: "How many of us wait for Ramadan? But are we equally excited for Dhul Hijjah?"

These days are a hidden treasure – let's not waste them.

- 2) **Testified by Prophet ﷺ** : He ﷺ testified that these are the best days of this world. Hadith already quoted above
- 3) **Includes the Appointed days:** *'And Mention the name of Allah on appointed days, over the beast of cattle that He has provided for them.'* (Surah Hajj 22:28)
- 4) **The Day of Arafah falls within them** - The most important day for pilgrims. This day alone proves the greatness of these ten days. The day of Arafah comes only in these ten days in which Allah frees the maximum people from Hell-Fire, sins are forgiven, deeds get multiplies many folds. May Allah make us amongst them. Prophet ﷺ encouraged people to do righteous deeds because of the greatness of these days as Hujjaj gather from around the world to the sacred house of Allah and seek His forgiveness. On this day Allah perfected His religion. But what about those who are not performing hajj, for them yaum Arafah has a special significance. *"Fasting on the Day of Arafah expiates the sins of the past year and the coming year."* Fasting on this day will expiate the sins of two years. (Sahih Muslim)

Those who are at Arafah performing Hajj are exempted from fast as Prophet ﷺ stopped at Arafah to eat. Narrated Maimuna: *"The people doubted whether the Prophet ﷺ was fasting on the day of Arafat or not, so I sent milk while he was standing at Arafat. He drank it and people were looking at him."* (Book of Fasting, 2019). The messenger of Allah ﷺ said: *"There is no day on which Allah sets free more slaves from Hell than He does on the Day of Arafah".* (The book of Hajj, 2019)

Significance:

- The day of Hajj pilgrims standing on the plain of Arafah.
- **Du'a is most accepted on this day.**

"The best of supplication is that which is made on the Day of Arafah."
(Tirmidhi)

Recommended Du'a:

"Laa ilaaha illAllahu wahdahu laa shareeka lahu, lahul mulku wa lahul hamdu wa huwa 'ala kulli shay'in qadeer."

Things to do:

- Make a du'a list.
- Dedicate time to personal worship.
- Include family, children, and the Ummah in your du'as.

5) **Eid al-Adha celebrates Ibrahim's sacrifice** - Commemorating ultimate submission to Allah. If financially able, each adult should offer a sacrifice.

6) **What is Eid al-Adha?**

Commemorates the sacrifice of Ibrahim عليه السلام. This is one of the best days as stated in the hadith. Narrated by Aishah (RA), Prophet ﷺ said: "The son of Adam does not do any deed on the Day of Sacrifice that is dearer to Allah than shedding blood. It will come on the Day of Resurrection with its horns and cloven hoofs and hair. Its blood is accepted by Allah before it reaches the ground. So be content when you do it." ([Chapters on Sacrifice, 2019](#))

Remind sisters: it's not just about new clothes or food, it's about **remembering the values of sacrifice and gratitude**.

7) **Encouragement:**

Perform Eid salah.

Meet relatives, share food, and bring joy to others - especially the needy.

Our Connection as Mothers and Wives

Sisters, as women, we have a unique connection to the story of Dhul Hijjah. The sacrifice of Ibrahim (AS) was not his alone - it was also the sacrifice of Hajar (AS) and Ismail (AS).

Hajar's (AS) trust in Allah when left in the desert with her infant son teaches us about complete reliance on Allah. Her running between Safa and Marwah - which we commemorate in Sa'i during Hajj - shows us that effort combined with trust in Allah brings relief.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"Paradise lies at the feet of your mother."* - (Ahmad and Nasa'i). During these blessed days, remember that your role in nurturing faith in your families is a form of worship that can earn you immense rewards.

For Sisters Who Cannot Perform Hajj

Many of us dream of performing Hajj but may face obstacles - financial, health, or family responsibilities. The Prophet (ﷺ) gave us beautiful news: *"Whoever performs Wudu properly, then comes to Friday prayer, listens attentively and keeps silent, his sins which were committed between that Friday and the previous Friday will be forgiven, with three more days in addition. But whoever touches pebbles has engaged in idle activity."* - (Muslim)

If we cannot be physically present in Mecca, we can still gain tremendous rewards through our sincere worship during these days.

Tasbeeh, Tahmeed, Takbeer, Tahleel and remembrance: Seek repentance from Fajr until sunrise. Prophet ﷺ commanded us to recite lots of Tasbeeh ("**SubhanAllah**"), Tahmeed ("**Al-Hamdu Lillah**") and Takbeer ("**Allah hu Akbar**") during these ten days. Abdullah Ibn Umar (RA) reported that Prophet ﷺ said: "There are no days greater in the sight of Allah and in which

righteous deeds are more beloved to Him than these ten days, so during this time recite a great deal of Tahleel (“La ilaaha ill-Allah”), Takbeer and Tahmeed . It is of great importance to recite out loud in masjids, home, street and other places as an act of remembrance and worship of Allah. Is a proclamation of the greatness of Allah. Women can recite them quietly. These are things that will be beneficial on the Day of resurrection as Allah says: “That they might witness things that are benefit to them (i.e. reward of Hajj in the Hereafter, and also some worldly gain from trade, etc), and mention the name of Allah on appointed days, over the beast of cattle that He has provided for them (for sacrifice)...”(Surah Hajj 22:28)

Takbeer may includes the words: “*Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, La ilaaha ill-Allah; wa Allahu akbar wa Lillahi’l-hamd (Allah is the Most Great, there is no God but Allah; Allah is Most Great and to Allah be praise),” as well as other phrases.* Sahabah use to loudly proclaim the Takbeer. Evidence of this can be seen in the sunnah, that Ibn Umar and Abu Hurayrah (RA) used to go out in marketplace during the first ten day of Dhul-Hijjah, reciting Takbeer, and the people would recite Takbeer when they heard them. We should revive this sunnah as the idea behind reciting the Takbeer loudly was to remind people to recite Takbeer, individually, not in groups as there is no proof in sunnah. “*Umar ibn Al-Khattab used to say takbeer in his mimbar in Mina, whereupon the people of the mosque hearing Umar would start to say Takbeer as would the people in the markets until the whole of mina was locked in glorifying Allah*”. With the advancement of time we are forgetting the revival of sunnah. Reviving them will bring us huge rewards as the Prophet ﷺ said, “*Whoever revives an aspect of my sunnah that is forgotten after my death, he will have a reward equivalent to that of the people who follow him, without it detracting in the least from their reward.*” ([The Book of Sunnah, 2019](#))

The Beauty of Collective Worship

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: “*The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion, and sympathy are just one body - when a limb suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever.*” - (Bukhari and Muslim)

When we engage in worship during Dhul Hijjah, we join millions of our sisters worldwide in a spiritual symphony of devotion.

Dhul Hijjah is a golden opportunity to renew our relationship with Allah.

“Whoever draws near to Me by a hand-span, I draw near to him an arm’s length...”
(Sahih al-Bukhari)

One of the favours of Allah (SWT) on His worshippers is to bestow upon us seasons of devotions, submission, obedience, piety and pious deeds so that the believers increase and exceed themselves in doing righteous deeds. They compete in doing deeds to get closer to Allah (SWT) happy and fortunate to seize this opportunity and not allowing it to pass away casually.

Day-by-Day Spiritual Program

Days 1-3: Foundation Building

- Increase your morning and evening adhkar
- Begin additional voluntary prayers (Duha, Nafl prayers, Tahajjud if possible)
- Start reading Quran with reflection - aim for consistency over quantity. Small acts are loved by Allah.

Encourage sisters:

- Even if you're busy with housework or children, keep your tongue moist with dhikr.

Days 4-6: Intensification

- Add fasting (especially if you can't fast on Day of Arafah due to health/pregnancy)
- Increase charitable giving - even small amounts count, give every day even if it is small.
- **Giving Charity/Zakat:** Prophet ﷺ said: *"There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days."* Those who are not performing Hajj should engage themselves in doing good deeds at this blessed time by giving charity, reciting Quran, making dua, honoring parents, upholding the ties of kinship, enjoining what is good and forbidding what is evil and other acts of worship. Ibn Hajar says in Fath al-Bari: *"The most apparent reason for the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah being distinguished in excellence is due to the assembly of the greatest acts of worship in this period, i.e. Salawat (Prayers), Siyam (Fasting), Sadaqah (Charity) and the Hajj (Pilgrimage). In no other periods do these great deeds combine."*
- Make extra du'a for family, community, and Ummah

Days 7-9: Peak Preparation

- Day 9 is the Day of Arafah - the most important day
- Prepare mentally and spiritually for increased worship

Specific Acts of Worship

Performing Hajj and Umrah: One of the best deed to do in these ten days is performing Hajj. *"An accepted Hajj brings no less a reward than Paradise."*

1. Dhikr and Remembrance The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"There are no days greater in the sight of Allah and in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Him than these ten days, so during this time recite a great deal of Tahleel (La ilaha illa Allah), Takbeer (Allahu Akbar) and Tahmeed (Alhamdulillah Rabbil Alameen)."* - (Ahmad)

Recommended Dhikr:

- La ilaha illa Allah (There is no god but Allah)
- Allahu Akbar (Allah is the Greatest)
- Alhamdulillah Rabbil Alameen (All praise belongs to Allah, Lord of the worlds)
- Subhan Allah (Glory be to Allah)

2. Fasting While not obligatory, fasting during these days is highly recommended. The Prophet (ﷺ) used to fast the first nine days of Dhul Hijjah: *"The Prophet used to fast the first nine days of Dhul Hijjah, the day of Ashura, and three days of each month."* - (Abu Dawood)

Special note for sisters: If you're menstruating, pregnant, or nursing, remember that Allah has given you concessions. Focus on dhikr, du'a, and charity instead.

3. Night Prayers (Qiyam al-Layl) The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"Our Lord descends to the lowest heaven during the last third of the night, inquiring: 'Who will call on Me so that I may respond to him? Who is asking something of Me so I may give it to him? Who is asking for My forgiveness so I may forgive him?'"* - (Bukhari and Muslim)

4. Increased Charity The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"Charity does not decrease wealth."* - (Muslim)

During these blessed days, even small acts of charity are multiplied in reward. This could be:

- Helping a neighbor with groceries
- Donating to a local mosque or charity
- Feeding the hungry
- Supporting orphans or widows

5. Sincere Repentance: This is the most thing to do in these ten days. Repentance means coming back to Allah. Commit yourself that I will not do this sin again and seek repentance and adhere firmly to the way of Allah (SWT). It's a day of sacrifice and when you sacrifice whatever you like to do but its against the ways of Islam. It will give you inner peace and happiness. It is a means to come closer to Allah by seeking His pleasure. Allah warned us again and again in Quran, let not this worldly life divert you from His remembrance. For a believer repentance is the key to success in this world and hereafter.

"So whosoever does good equal to the weight of an atom, shall see it,

And whosoever does evil equal to the weight of an atom, shall see it." (Surah Zalzalah 99:7-8)

Hasten to do good deeds before you are trapped with your deeds in the grave.

It is upon every Muslim to face these days by true repentance and definite determination on resorting back to Allah (SWT). We are always ready to give ourselves countless excuses for not repenting and for not doing good deeds. One of the common excuses we hear and make for ourselves is lack of time. We are busy with our kids, work, studies etc. Allah (SWT) has warned us in the Quran to not let such worldly matters divert us from His remembrances

O You who believe! Let not your properties or your children divert you from the remembrance of Allah. And whoever does that, they are the losers.

(63:9) Surah Moominoon

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُلْهِكُمْ أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ
اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ

Repentance is success and prosperity for the believer in this world and Hereafter

Allah (SWT) said: وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا أَيُّهَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ

تُفْلِحُونَ

And beg Allah to forgive you all, O believers, that you may be successful 31) Sura Noor

The Day of Arafah - The Crown Jewel

Understanding Arafah

The Day of Arafah (9th Dhul Hijjah) is the most important day of Hajj, but its blessings extend to all Muslims, not just pilgrims.

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"There is no day on which Allah frees more people from the Fire than the Day of Arafah. He comes close and expresses His pride to the angels, saying: 'What do these people (the pilgrims) want?'"* - (Muslim)

For Those Not Performing Hajj

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"Fasting on the Day of Arafah expiates the sins of two years: the previous year and the coming year."* - (Muslim)

Your Arafah Day Schedule:

- **Pre-Dawn:** Wake for Suhur if fasting, perform Fajr prayer with extra dhikr
- **Morning:** Extended Quran recitation and reflection

- **Midday:** Dhikr, du'a, seeking forgiveness
- **Afternoon:** Focus on personal and community du'a
- **Maghrib:** Break fast with gratitude and continued worship

Special Du'as for Arafah

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"The best supplication is that of the Day of Arafah, and the best that I and the Prophets before me have said is: 'La ilaha illa Allah wahdahu la shareeka lah, lahul mulku wa lahul hamdu wa huwa ala kulli shay'in qadeer' (There is no god but Allah alone, with no partner. His is the dominion and His is the praise, and He has power over all things)."* - (Tirmidhi)

Eid al-Adha and the Days of Tashreeq

The Philosophy of Sacrifice

Eid al-Adha commemorates Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son Ismail, demonstrating complete submission to Allah. For us as women, this teaches us about prioritizing Allah's commands over our personal desires.

One can sacrifice number of animals throughout the year, but its not same as the sacrifice of Dhul-Hijjah which in Arabic known as Udh'hiya. The Quran tells us: *"It is neither their meat nor their blood that reaches Allah, but it is piety from you that reaches Him."* - (Al-Hajj 22:37) The best day in the sight of Allah is Yawm al-Nahar (day of sacrifice- 10th of Dhul-Hijjah), then Yawm al-Qarr (the 11th of Dhul-Hijjah) . One cannot feel the sacrifice if they don't know the history behind it. Teach your family members and kids that Ibrahim (AS) was ready to give up everything for the sake of Allah.

SACRIFICE

All over the world Muslims celebrate this festival in the remembrance of the sacrifice that *Prophet Ibrahim* (A.S.) did due to his strong faith in Allah. Ibrahim (AS) showed a willingness to sacrifice his son Prophet Ismail (A.S.) but his son was replaced with a lamb by Allah. Allah was so pleased with Ibrahim's (A.S.) submission to Him that He made this demonstration of sacrifice and faith a permanent part of a Muslim's life. This event is mentioned in Quran - Surah As-Saffat (37:102). And do you know what reward Prophet Ibrahim got from Allah? Allah liked Ibrahim (A.S.) sacrifice and in hereafter under a shade of tree, Ibrahim AS is seated with all those many kids who dies before attaining puberty. Every single kid ever born and who dies is with Ibrahim AS because he sacrificed his own son for Allah's sake. So sacrifice should be done with the sincere heart not like a ritual.

Hence, every year on the 10th of Dhul Hijjah, Muslims all over the world celebrate Eid-ul-Adha. On this day, Muslims slaughter a lamb, sheep, goat or a camel to honor the sacrifice of Ibrahim (AS). Fasting on this day is strictly forbidden and on the day of Ei-ul-fitr as Prophet ﷺ said, "No fasting is permissible on the two days of Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha."

Narrated by Zaid bin Arqam, “ The companions of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: ‘O Messenger of Allah, what are these sacrifices?’ He said: ‘The sunnah of your father Ibrahim (AS).’ They said: ‘What is there for us in them, O Messenger of Allah ﷺ ?’ He said: ‘For every hair, one merit.’ They said: ‘What about wool, O Messenger of Allah ﷺ ?’ He said: ‘For every hair of wool, one merit.’” This Hadith is present in Ibn Majah and its grade is Da’if. ([Chapters on sacrifice, 2019](#))

FIQH OF SACRIFICE

What a person should do upon sighting the moon and what one should not do: -

- a. The one doing sacrifice must stop cutting his hair, nails and removing anything from his skin, from the sighting of moon till the sacrifice done. Prophet ﷺ said: “Whoever wants to offer a sacrifice, let him not remove anything from his nails or cut his hair for the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah.” ([The Book of ad-Dahaya \(Sacrifices\), 2019](#)) Scholars have said if the man of the household sacrifices an animal on behalf of his family- the family members can still cut nails etc, just the person who is financially or physically doing the sacrifice has to not cut nails etc.
- b. A woman can also do sacrifice if she has previously done/ knows how to do sacrifice or delegate some male family member to do sacrifice on her behalf, then the same rulings apply to her also. The prohibition does not apply to the person delegated, only to the person who is making sacrifice.
- c. One sheep is enough for the whole family as the Prophet ﷺ slaughtered one sheep for himself and all his wives and another one for the whole Muslim ummah. One can do more but it should not be for show off.
- d. The animal of sacrifice should not have any defect in it. Ali (RA) said, “ *The Messenger of Allah commanded us to examine the eyes and ears (of animals) and not to Sacrifice and animal with a bad eye, nor an animal with ears slit from the front, nor an animals with its ears slit from back, nor an animal with a round hole in its ear.*” ([The book of ad-Dahaya \(Sacrifice\), 2019](#)). And in another narration Prophet said: “ A crippled animal whose limp is obvious is not be slaughtered as sacrifice, nor an animal with a bad eye whose blindness is obvious, nor a sick animal whose sickness is obvious, nor an emaciated animal that has no marrow (in it bones).” ([The Book on Sacrifice, 2019](#))
- e. Sacrificial animal can be of any gender male or female.
- f. The animal for sacrifice can be slaughtered if the milk teeth had fallen and, in its place, new teeth had come. Except for the sheep which can be of six months old.

- g. Animal should be slaughtered after the Eid prayer. It is preferable to slaughter with your own hands. Anas bin Malik (RA) said: *"I saw the Messenger ﷺ slaughter his sacrifice with his own hand, placing his foot on its side. Women can also slaughter the animal. Abu Moosa (RA) used to say to his daughter that "slaughter your animal with your own hands."*
- h. Knife should be sharpened well before slaughtering. The person slaughtering should be facing Qibla, and the animal should be laid down turned to its left. The person slaughtering should place his right leg over the animal for balance. Then slaughter the animal with right hand.
- i. While slaughtering the animal recite the dua ***"Bismillaah wallaahu-Akbar" or "Bismillaah wallaahu-Akbar Allahumma Taqabbal min (name of the person who has ordered to slaughter).***
- j. Meat can be distributed raw or cooked
- k. The meat of sacrifice and Aqeeqah is not a Sadaqah (charity). Meat can be distributed among relatives, friends and poor or can be kept full for the family if the members are more. Allah says: *"And feed the beggar who does not ask (men) and the beggar who asks (men)."* Priority should always be given to needy people.
- l. There is no restriction that only Muslims should eat the meat.
- m. Age of Animal for sacrifice: Lamb more than 6 months, Goat 1 year, Cow 2 years and Camel 5 Years. Seven persons can take share in Cow and Camel.

PRACTICES OF PROPHET ﷺ ON THE DAY OF EID-UL-ADHA

- To rise as early as possible
- To take a bath
- To brush teeth (use miswak)
- To apply Itr (perfume)
- To wear one's best clothes, not particularly new and should comply with Shari'ah i.e. Islamic style of dressing.
- Do not eat anything before Sacrifice as mentioned in the hadith, Ahmad (22475) narrated that Buraydah (RA) said: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ did not go out on the Day of Eid al-Fitr

until he had eaten, and he did not eat on the Day of Eid al-Adha until he came back, then he would eat from his sacrifice.

- To perform Eid salah in congregation and in Eid Gah rather than Masjid. If there is some problem like for aged and sick people, they can perform prayer in Masjid. If there is rain then also its allowed in Masjid
- Listen to Sermon (Khutbah) after offering Eid Prayer
- To choose different different routes while going and coming back from Masjid
- Recite Takbeer: ***“Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, La ilaaha ill-Allah; wa Allahu akbar wa Lillahi’l-hamd (Allah is the Most Great, there is no God but Allah; Allah is Most Great and to Allah be praise),”*** or ***“Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, La ilaaha ill-Allah; wa Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, wa Lillahi’l-hamd***

Celebrating Eid Meaningfully

1. **Begin with Eid prayer** - Attend the community prayer if possible
2. **Express gratitude** - Thank Allah for His countless blessings
3. **Share joy** - Visit family, friends, and neighbors
4. **Remember the less fortunate** - Give charity and share your blessings

The Days of Tashreeq (11th, 12th, 13th Dhul Hijjah)

These are days of celebration and remembrance. The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *“The days of Tashreeq are days of eating, drinking, and remembering Allah.”* - (Muslim)

Continue your dhikr and maintain the spiritual momentum you've built.

IS EID PRAYER OBLIGATORY ON WOMEN

No, its not obligatory on women, it is a Sunnah. They should perform prayers with other Muslims because the Prophet ﷺ enjoined them to do that. Narrated by Umm ‘Atiyah (RA): “We were commanded by Prophet ﷺ to bring out to the Eid prayers the adolescent girls and the women in seclusion, and he commanded the menstruating women to avoid the prayer place of the Muslims.” In another narration, “The Messenger of Allah ﷺ used to bring out the virgins, adolescent girls, women in seclusion and menstruating woman on the two Eids, but the menstruating women were to keep away from the prayer place and witness the gathering of the Muslims. One of them said, “O Messenger of Allah, what if she does not have a jilbab?” He said, “Then let her sister lend her one of her Jilbaabs. (al-Munajjid, 2012)

But they should wear Islamic clothes, look decent, not wearing adornment, makeup and perfume. So that they may follow Sunnah with avoiding fitnah.

TIME FOR SACRIFICE

The time for offering the sacrifice begins after the Eid prayer on Eid al-Adha and ends when the sun sets on the thirteenth of Dhul-Hijjah. So there are four days of sacrifice: the day of Eid al-Adha and the three days after it.

- One should hasten to slaughter the sacrifice as the Prophet ﷺ used to do like this and he would eat from the meat of his sacrifice
- It is from after the Eid prayer on the Day of Sacrifice until the sun sets on the last of the days of al-tashreeq, which is the thirteenth of Dhu'l-Hijjah. So there are four days of sacrifice: the day of Eid after the prayer, and three days after that. Whoever slaughters his sacrifice before the Eid prayer is over, or after the sun sets on the thirteenth, his sacrifice is not valid ... but if he has an excuse for delaying it until after the days of al-tashreeq, such as if the animal ran away with no negligence on his part, and he did not find it until after the time was over, or if he delegated someone to do it on his behalf and his deputy forgot until the time was over, then there is nothing wrong with offering the sacrifice after the time has ended, because there is an excuse, by analogy with the fact that one who sleeps and misses a prayer or forgets it should offer the prayer as soon as he wakes up or remembers it.
- It is permissible to offer the sacrifice during that time by night or by day, but it is better during the day, and the day of Eid after the two khutbahs is the best time. Each day is better than the following day, because that is hastening to do good. (al-Munajjid, The time for udhiyah (sacrifice), 2009)

May Allah allow us and guide us to do good deeds in these ten days, accept them and forgive our sins. One should not waste the opportunity coming in these coming ten days as they are matchless. Such deeds are performed with the aim of getting closer to Allah and if the goal of such deeds is not to seek nearness to Allah, then performing such deeds cannot be called worship. Eid-ul-Adha gives a person an opportunity to sacrifice both monetarily and physically as both the things are present- Salah as well as sacrifice. We spent enormous amount of money in weddings and other function, but when the time comes to buy a sacrificial animal we bargain with the seller to the last. And then we say the seller has looted us , animal is so costly this year, you pretend as you have wasted your money. No no no not at all, this is really the time to spend, just think you are buying for the sake of Allah, it will give you huge profit which no other trade can give you.

May accept all the ibadah's done in these ten days. May Allah bless our Prophet ﷺ and all his family and companions.

Practical Tips for Busy Mothers and Working Women

Balancing Worship with Responsibilities

For Mothers with Young Children:

- Include children in dhikr - teach them the Takbeer
- Make du'a while doing household chores
- Use commute time for remembrance of Allah

For Working Sisters:

- Set phone reminders for dhikr throughout the day
- Use lunch breaks for brief Quran reading
- Make workplace interactions opportunities for good character

For Caregivers:

- Remember that caring for family is also worship
- Make du'a for those you care for
- See service to others as a form of charity

Creating a Supportive Environment

- Encourage family members to participate
- Share knowledge with other women in your community
- Create accountability partnerships with friends

Conclusion: Carrying the Blessings Forward

The Continuation Beyond Dhul Hijjah

The habits we build during these sacred days should not end with the month. The Prophet (ﷺ) emphasized consistency: *"Take up good deeds only as much as you are able, for the best deeds are those done regularly even if they are few."* - (Ibn Majah)

A Final Reflection

Sisters, as we conclude today's session, remember that Allah has blessed us with this knowledge and these opportunities. The Prophet (ﷺ) said: *"Whoever conceals the faults of a Muslim, Allah will conceal his faults in this world and the Hereafter."* - (Muslim)

Let us use these blessed days to purify our hearts, strengthen our relationship with Allah, and become better versions of ourselves for our families and communities.

Closing Du'a

"Rabbana atina fi'd-dunya hasanatan wa fi'l-akhirati hasanatan wa qina 'adhab an-nar" (Our Lord, give us good in this world and good in the next world, and save us from the punishment of the Fire)

May Allah accept our efforts, forgive our shortcomings, and grant us the ability to make the most of these blessed days.

Barakallahu feeki - May Allah bless you all.

SOME DEEDS GREATLY RECOMMENDED

1. Reading the Quran and teaching it
2. Asking forgiveness
3. Filial Devotion (Birrul Walidain)
4. Loyalty towards Uncles and Aunts
5. Taking Care of relation
6. Greeting with Salaam and feeding whom you know and whom you do not know.
7. Visit the Graveyard
8. Call Fasting people for Iftar
9. compromising between two people
10. protecting the tongue and private parts
11. Being good and kind to neighbors
12. Honoring the guests
13. Spending in the way of Allah (SBT)
14. Removal of anything harmful on the path

15. Spending for the wife and family
16. Sponsoring the orphans
17. Visiting the sick
18. Filling the need of brotherhood
19. Sending salutations on the Prophet (SAS)
20. Not hurting others
21. Making supplications (DUWA) for all Muslims brother and sisters
22. Lowering the gaze from what Allah (SBT) has forbidden
23. being loyal and trustworthy
24. Reading Surah Kahaf on Fridays
25. praying the Sunan Ar Rawatib
26. Desire to receive Hallal sustenance (Rizq)
27. Da'wah towards Allah
28. Truth in buying and selling
29. Supplicating for parents
30. Teaching the Shariyah to boys and Girls
31. Duwa between Adhan and Iqama
32. Reciting the Quran extensively
33. Making the Muslim happy and desiring to help in all direction